# SHORT AND

BRIEFE SVMME

Of saving Knowledge; Consisting of the Creed, ten Commandements, Lords Prayer, and the Sacraments.

And is made as a profitable Introduction to the larger Art of Divinitie, composed by the methodicall Tables of A.R.

and published by

I PETER 2. 2.

As new torne babes desire the sincere milke of the Word, that yee may grow thereby.

Not as babes ever sucking, never bailing.

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# To the Religious Student of the Art of Well-lining.

Hou mayest (Christian Reader) after thou hast studied, and well pervsed this short Summe of Reli-

gion, purchase to thy selse (if thy purse and paines will suffer thee) the learned Theologie and Divinitie of that worthy man of God M<sup>r</sup> Alexander Richard-sonne. This may be for preparation, that will bee for surther perfection. Heb.6.1. Leaving the beginning of Christ, let vs goe on to perfection. It is a shame ever to be vnder the spoone, and never to vse the knife. Ever learning, and never to come to the knowledge of the Truth.

2. Tim. 3. 7. Yet soft and sure is the best pace. Leap-Christians (like horse-A 2 coursers

# TO THE READER.

coursers lades) gallop into profession, and then shamefully tyre and give in. It lames a weake Childe to vse limmes too soone, and over-much forwardnes argues no perpetuitie. Learne we then first to goe easily, and afterwards to runne with speed the wayes of Gods Commandements.



The Catechisme defined, and distributed.

# CHAPTER I.

Of Faith in God.

Question.

Hat inducements to Religion are prefixed before i your Catechisme?

Answere.

Foure, first, the giving by of my name to God in Baptilme, and that in the decadfull name of Father, Sonne, and holv Chost. Secondly, that being not able to give it by my selfe, it was done by others, according to the auncient custome of the Church, ever contogning that custome and Confession together, Math. 3. 6. Aug. Epist. 24. Papills would have it to contract spirituall kindred, but surely it maketh honest some amongst neighbours. Third, they that gave it by so, me, did promise

in my name that I should live according to Religion. Fourthly, I believe in conscience that I am bound to perform what they have promised. Thus because I am Gods, and bound to him by sureties, volves, promises, and Conscience it selfe, I is my durie being nowe come to yeares of discretion, to learne to believe in him, and obey him.

Q. What then is Religion?

A. It is the acknowledgement of the truth which is after gordinesse, Tic. 1.1.

Q. What are the parts?

A. Faith and Workes; the summe of the one is contained in the Creed: of the other in the ten Commandements, Lozds prayer, and the Sacraments. Tic. 3. 8.

Q. What is Faith?

A. A confidence in God, grounded by this beleeve.

Q. How is Faith grounded vpon know-

ledge ?

A. In regard of God and his Church: the maker of the Couenant, and the people with whom it is made. Ier. 31.33.

Q. How in respect of God?

A. As we believe in one God, and three persons so; our happinesse, Ioh. 14.1.

Q. How in one God?

A. In respect of nature, essence, and besing. Deut. 4.35.

Q. How in three persons?

A. Three in regard of divine revelation, or reall respects in that one most pure essence Mat. 28.19.

Q. What is the effence?

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A. That whereby God is of himselfe, the most absolute and first being, Isa. 41. 4.

Q. What is a person?

A. That one pure pure God with the relation of a Father, Sonne, and holy Ghoth, 1. loh. 5. 7.

Q. Doth the relation adde any thing to the effence?

A. Pothing but respect or relation, as Abraham the Father of the faithfull hath the same nature as he is a Father and as he is a man.

Q. What is the Relation?

A. It is either to send or be sent, and both these are done either by nature, or counsell. Ioh. 15.26. the spirit proceedeth from the sather and sonne by nature, and is sent to bs by counsell.

Q. Is there no other relation?

A. Des, either to beget or be begotten, and the father begets his onely some by nature, and the rest of his children by counsell. Heb.

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1. 3. Iam. 1.18. A man having the relation of a father is said to beget children by nature or counsell, as adopted children are freely begotten, not of the bodic but the will. Iam. 1. 18. Of his owne will begat he vs. not so his one by sonne, who is as naturall to his father, as burning to the sire, and as I face to Abrabam.

Q. What then is the first person?

A. God the father, who by nature begets his some, & by his counsell creats the world. Heb. 1. 2.5.

Q. What is the propertie of the Father?
A. Mo beget, and not to be begetten.
Ich. 3.16.

Q. What is his manner of sublisting?

A. To be the first person; for the begetter is before the begotten, and yet being Kelatiues they are together in nature, for no man is a father before he have a sonne, though in order the father be first.

Q. What is the fathers worke?

A. Creation; foz, 3 believe in him as maker of heaven and earth: and the reason is because he is the first person, to whom the first worke belongs.

Q. What is Creation?

A. A worke of the Father, who of him-felfe by his sonne and spirit, makes the world

of nothing exceeding Gost, Gen. 1. 31. Heb. 1. 3.

Q. What is given to the Father in respect of Creation?

A. Almightie power; for the Father in himselse is pure act, which act is power as it may be felt of his creatures, which are in power to be.

Q. What is omnipotencie?

A. It is that whereby the Father is able to doe all that he doth, and more then his doth, if it contradict not his owne nature of things.

Q. How is Creation devided?

A. Into beanen and earth. Gen. I.I.

Q. What meane you by heaven?

A. The third heaven, with the Angels, both which were made perfect in the very first beginning of time. Gen. 1.1.

Q. What meane you by earth?

A. All that matter which was closed and compassed about with the third heaven, and was made at the same instant with it to prohibite and keepe out bacutie, or emptiness, and fill by the whole compasse of it, otherwise the parts of themselves would have fallen together to have kept out that enemy of nature. Gen. 1.1.

Q. Are wee to vnderstand no more by

earth then that first matter?

A. Pes, we are to understand the forming of it into the source elements, sire, ayre, water, and earth; as likewise the filling of it and them with inhabitants, both above and below: as also the providence of the Father in preserving a governing of them all to their ends and vice: for the Father carries the worke according to his proper manner of working, until we come to Redemption, and there the some takes it upon him in a reculiar manner.

Q. What is the second person?

A. The some, who is begotten of the Father by nature, and by counsell, redeemes markind.

Q. What is the relative propertie of the

fonne?

A. To be begotten. Heb. 1.5.

Q. What is his manner of subsisting?

A. To be the second person in order, not in nature, for the begotten in relation is naturally as soone as the begetter.

O. What is his worke?

A. Redemption. Ephel 1. 7.

Q. What is Redemption?

A. It is a satisfaction made to the Justice of Bod the Father for Pan by a Rodemer.

O. Who is the Redeemer?

A. Ielus

A. Iefus Chrift, his onelo fonne our Lozd.

Q. Why call you him lefus?

A. Because he is a Saviour of his people from their sinnes. Math. 1.21.

Q. Why Christ?

A. Auregard of his offices, as he is anothe ted our King, Prieft, and Prophet. Pial. 45.7. Luke 4.18. Act. 4.27. and 10.38.

Q. Why his onely Sonne?

A. Becouse the Father can have no more sommes by nature but one

Q. Why our Lord?

A. Usy the right of Redemption. Rom. 14,

Q. How is our Redemption wrought?

A. By the humiliation and exaltation of the Sound of God. Luke 24.26.

Q. What be the seuerall degrees of his

humiliation?

A. Seven, there be some others lest out of the Cried; but these expressed are the principall.

Q. What are they ?

A. 1. His conception, 2. his nativitie, 3. his passion bender Pilate, 4. his crucifying, 5. his dying, 6. his buriall, 7. his descent into hell.

Q. What are meant by all these ?

A. That Chiff must not onely fatisfie in generall, but that he must passe through the

degrees of our forrowes, and beare our afatitions. Isa. 53.4.5.

Q. What be the seuerall degrees of his

exaltation?

A. Foure, which are his Resurrection, Ascension, Sitting at Godsright hand, andreturne to Iudgement. As in his humiliation he toke our receits, and talked the bitter potison so to be, so all physicks being ended of that kinde, hee gives us his receits of Redemption, Ephe. 1.7. Instification. Rom. 3. 24. Reconciliation. Colol. 1.20. Sandification. 1 Pet. 1.2. Entrance into glory. Heb. 10. 19. these are Cordials sor us, and so, him after all his penall receits.

Q. What is the third person?

A. The holy Spirit. who by nature \$200 ceepeth from the Father, and the Sonne, and by counfell applyeth Chaill to the Church and enery member thereof, the Father being the first person cleas, the Sonne respectives, and the Spirit sandifies. John 4. 26. and 15.26. Rom. 8.16. 1. Cor. 2.12. John 3.5. 2. Cor. 1.21. Rom. 8.23.

Q. What is his Relative propertie?

A. To Proceede. Understanding begets an Image of it selse, and loves it, and so from the best understanding to the best object of it, proceedes a mutual love. The beget.

# fauing Knowledge.

ter loves the begotten, and the begotten loves the begetter, and their love is equal to themselves, and proceedes from them both, and to vs. The will of the Father, by the wisedome of his Sonne, and power of his god Spirit is sayd to doe all.

Q. What is his manner of fubfiffing?

A. To be the third person in order, for proceeding from two, her must needed bee the third, and pet in nature as soone as either of them; for the louers and the loued, are Relatives, and therefore together in nature.

Q. What is his worke?

A. Application, 02 Sandification. Ephe. 5.26.27. The Sonne having prepared the remedy, leaves it to be applyed by the Spistif, Iohn 16.7.

#### CHAP. II.

Of the faith of the Church.

Hitherto of Faith in God.

Q. What is the faith of the Church?

A. Whereby beleening in God, we also beleeve, that were are of the Church, and made partakers of all good things promised but it.

Q. What

Q. What is the Church?

A. The number of all those that are applyed to Christ by the spirit: Now as this Union is made by Faith, it is called the militant Church, as by vision, the triumphant.

Q. Why is it called holy?

A. Because it is an holy Societie of Saints in regard of the Spirits works. 1. Pet. 2. 9. Rev. 11.2. and 21.29.

Q. Why Catholicke?

A. Because it is ominerfall in respect of all times, persons, and places, a familie both in heaven and earth. Math. 26. 13. Ephel. 3. 15. 1. Iohn 2.1. Reue. 7. 9.

Q. What are the benefits God bestow-

eth vpon it ?

A. The in this life, as the communion of Saints, and remission of sinnes: and throin the life to come, as the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting, Lam. 3. 23. Plal. 68. 19. Col. 1.5. and 3.3.4. I. John 3.2.

Q. What is the communion of Saints?

A. It is our communicating with God, and the godly both in grace and glory, or that fellowthip that were have with Christ our bead, and all his members. Pfal. 16.5. and 73.26. Ifay 55.1. Act. 4.32. Gal. 6.10. Ephel. 4.3.4.5.6. Heb. 10.24. Phill 2.1.2. 1. Cor. 10.16. Reve. 3.18. and 6.20. O. What

Q. What is remission of Sinne?

A. It is a worke of mercy, whereby the Father being offended, and reconciled by his Sonne, both witnesse to our consciences by his holy Spirit, that all our sinness are discharged, and that we are graciously received as gaine into his fauour. Iob 33.27.28.1. King 8.47. Hos. 14.2. Isa-33.24. and 62.12. God in forgiving our sinnes doth both cover and cure them. 1. Iohn 1.9.

Q. What is the refurrection of the body?

A. It is a standing up from the dead, by the power of Christs resurrection, whereby our corruptible bodies are made incorruptible, and filled with all glory and excellency lob 19.25.26. John 5.28. Act. 3.19.1. Cor. 15.42.43. 2. Cor. 5.1. Heb. 11.35.

Q. What meane you by life Euerlasting?

A. That most biested and happy estate in which all the Elect of God shall reigne with Chaist their head in the thirde headen, after this life, and after the day of judgement, and that both in body and soule for ener and ever. Psal 16.11. Isa. 64.4. Iohn 17.20.21.1. Cor. 2.9. and 13.12 and 15.28. 2 Cor. 12.4. Phil. 3.21. Reue. 21.22. and 22.2.

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#### CHAP. III.

# Of good workes.

Q. Hitherto of faith, what are the workes of Faith?

A. That ready act of Faith to doe as we are bidden. Rom. 6.16. 1. Sam. 12.25. Iam. 2.1417. Iohn 14.15.1. Theil. 1.3. Tit. 3. 1.8.

Q. How are these workes deuided?

A. They are either our malking with God, or conferring with him, or receiving from him.

2. Cor. 7.1. Phil. 1.6. 2. Theil. 1.11. heb. 6.17.

18. Faith bids the cleanled, goe away and finne no more, but walke after the principle provokes to prayer, and gives be full confirmation of Gods love.

Q. What is our walking with God?

A. It is our due observation of his lawes in all our wayes. Plal. 119.6.

Q. What is the law of God?

A. The rule that God hath prescribed vs. for the holy performance of all our actions. Is. 8.20. Rom. 2.15. and 7.7.

Q. How is the law distributed?

A. It is either concerning the worship of God, oglone of our neighbour. Marke 12.

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29.30,31.

Q. What is the first Commandement,

concerning the worthip of God?

A. Thou shalt have no other Gods before my face. Gen:39.9. Iob 31, 23.24. Pial. 112. 1. Pro.3.5. Isay 8.13. and 51.12. Haback. 1.16. Luke 12.45. Phil.3. 19. Colos.3.5.

Q. What is the fumme of this precept?

A. The having of the true God, and him alone, and that with the whole man, in the best of all his powers.

Q. What is the fecond Commaunde-

ment?

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A. Thou finit not make to thy selfe any gramen Image, &c. Exod. 20.4.5.6. Psal. 44.21. and 106.35.39. Deut. 4.12. Isay 42.2. Hos. 14.8. Hab. 2.18. Math. 15.9.1. John. 5.21.

Q. What is the Summe heereof?

A. That wee worthip God with his owne worthip, and not our owne deciles.

Q. What is the third Commandement?

A. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vaine, &c. Deut. 28.58. Psal. 5. 16.17. Dan. 4.34. Math. 6.9. Rom. 11.33. 1.Tim. 6.1.

Q. What is the summe thereof?

A. Due reverence to be thewed in the worthip of God.

Q. What is the fourth Commande-

ment?

A. Remember thou keepe holy the Sabboth day, &c. Neh. 13. 15. to 22. Exod. 20. 8. 9. 10. 11. Isa. 58. 13. Ier. 17. 27. Rev. 1. 10.

Q. What is the fumme of this law?

A. All diligence in publique Prayer to God, and in learning the will of God, especially byon his owneday.

# CHAPTER IIII.

Of Charitie.

Hitherto of holinesse in the first Tasble.

Q. What is that instice that we owe to our neighbour?

A. That wee doe to him, as wee would hee should doe to vs. Mark. 12.21.

Q. What is the first Commandement of this Table?

A. Honour thy father and mother, &c. Excod. 20. 12.

Q. What is the summethereof?

A. Due respect to our superiours, inferiours, and equalls, to honour all according to their place and degree.

Q. What is the second precept?

A. Thou Shalt not kill. Exod. 20. 13.

Q. What

Q. What is the summe of it?

A. Preservation of life, as farre as may franchiuth the good of the Church, and Common wealth.

Q. What is the third Commandement?
A. Thou shalt not commit adulterie. Exod,

20.14.

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Q. What is the summe of it?

A. Chastitie, both inward and outward, in affection and action.

Q. What is the fourth Commandement?

A. Thou Shalt not Steale. Exod. 20. 15.

Q. What is the fumme of it?

A. Infice and equitie, a vertue that readily gives every manhis owne.

Q. What is the fift Commandement?

A. Thou shalt not beare faise witne se, &c. Exod 20.16.

Q. What is the summe thereof?

A. Truth, and our testimony thereunto as often as it shall lawfully bee required.

Q. What is the fixt Commandement!

A. Thou Shalt not court, Exod. 20.17.

Q. What is the summether eof?

A. Contentment, and resistance against all concupilcence.

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#### CHAPTER V.

of Prayer.

Witherto of the Law.

Q. What is Prayer.

A. It is a moving of God the Father in the name of his Sonne, by the power of his spirit, with things agreeable to his will. Rom. 8.27. Ioh. 16.23.

Q. Where is the summe of this contai:

ned?

A. In the Lords Prayer.

Q. How is that devided?

A. Into a preface, the petitions, and the conclusion.

Q. What is the Preface?

A. It is the preparation of the heart in comming to God; for as wee are to come with volonelle, so must wee all o come with reverence of his Patellic that filleth the heavens, Pfal. 26.6. and 115.3. Eccl. 5.1. Is. 66.1. Luk. 15.18.

Q. What are the words?

A. Our father which art in heaven.

Q. How are the petitions devided?

A. They either concerne God, og our selves.

Q. How

Q. How many concerne God?

A. Three.

Q. How are they devided?

A. They either concerne his Glory, or the meanes of it.

Q. Which is the petition concerning his

Glory?

A. Hallowed be thy name, Where we defire, that God in his nature, attributes, word, and workes, may be fauctified by bs, Lev. 10.3. Ezek. 38.23. Act. 12.23.

Q. What are the petitions concerning

the meanes of his Glory?

A. Two. The comming of his kingdome, and the doing of his will.

Q. What is meant by thy Kingdome

A. That the kingdome of our Lord Islus Christ, both by the inward working of his Spirit, and also by the outward meanes, may be enlarged daily, buill it be perfected at the comming of Christ to Judgement. Pfal. 122.6. Isa. 62. 7. Rom. 14. 17. 2 Thes. 3.1. 2 Tim. 4. 8. Rev. 22. 20.

Q. What is meant by the doing of Gods will vpon earth, as it is done in heauen.

A. That all obedience be given to God in the most holy and heavenly manner, Pfal, 86 21. and 119.36. Mal, 1.6. Act. 24.16.

Rom. 8.29. I Thef. 4.3. And for wants tract performance daily prayer for parden with a complaining of our wants. Pfal. 143.

2. Rom. 7.18.

# CHAPTER VI.

Of requests for our selwes.

Hitherto of blessings concerning one fancification of Gods name, comming of his kingdome, and performance of his will.

Q. What bleffings concerne our felues?

A. Either suchas concerne this life, or a better; the bodie, or the soule.

Q. What is the petition for this life?

A. The giving of vs our daily bread, that is, that God would provide for vs all things convenient for this life, walking faithfully in our vocation, and in all things submitting to his heavenly will, and good pleasure. Pfal. 37.5. Prov. 10.22. and 16.3. and 30.8. Hag. 1.6. 1. Tim. 6.8.

Q. What are the petitions for a better

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A. In regard of the present, forgiverelle of tinne, and for future beliverance out of all

temptations that may any wayes draw bs to finne.

Q. What meaneyou by the first?

A. That all our finnes may be forgiven, and never laid to our charge, either to condemne vs here, or to contound vs hereafter, and that most freely in Jesus Christ, and as we heartly forgive them that have offended vs, where with goeth an humble confession of them to God, Pfal. 40.12. Luke 11.4. I loh. 1.9. Confession and deprecation must goe together.

Q. What meane you by the second?

A. The not leading of leaning of vs in temptation, but his most gracious and mercifull deliverance of vs out of them all; and in this request, we either lament our estate to God, or complaine of the wicked who molest vs. Deut. 8.2. and 13.3. 2 Chron. 32.
31. Pfal. 13.2. and 55.2.3.

# Hitherto of Petition.

Q. What is thankefgining?

A. A gratefull acknowledgment of all the benefits of God, and ascribing onto him dominion, power, and glozy, for ever and ever, Amen. Another is the sweet concluding of all our Prayers. 1 Chron. 29. 11. Psal. 29.

The Summe of 2, 9, 2 Cor. 1.20. Phil. 4, 6.

#### CHAPTER VII.

Of Sacraments.

Q. Now wee come to the celebrating of a Sacrament, what then is it?

A. It is a Seale of righteousnesse by faith. Rom. 4. 11.

Q. What are the kinds?

A. Two, Baptisme, and the Lords Suppor.
Mat. 26. 26. and 28. 19. Gen. 17. 11. 12.
Rom. 4. 11. I Cor. 10. 12. 3.4.

Q. What is Baptisine?

A. A Sacrament of our entrance into Chiffiantite, 02 of our ingrasting into Chiff. Act. 8. 12. 38.

Q. What is the outward figne?

A. Water, with the spainkling of it in the Pame of the Father, Sonne, and Poly Sholk.

Q. What is signified by it?

A. The walking away of our linnes, and prefenting of vs holy to God the Father.

Q. What is the Lords Supper?

A. A Sacrament of our continuance in Christianitie, oxour dayly growing by with Christ, 1. Cor. 11.23.

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# This memorable Banquet, proportioned in the outward Elements and inward Graces.

Q. How doe the outwarde Elementes teach the outward man?

A. Cither in themselves of their vses.

Q. How in themselues?

A. Woth for Substance and qualitie.

Q. How for substance ?

A. As the bread is the Caste of life and as the wine glads the heart of man.

Q. How in their qualities?

A. As they are common and sensible, sensible, to the eyes and care, feeling, smelling, tasting.

Q. How in their vse?

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A. Cither as they are handled by the mi-

Q. How by the Minister?

A. First, in setting them spart. Secondly, in blessing of them. Thirdly, in breaking of the breat, and powring forth of the wine, Fourthly, in beliaring them to the Communicants.

Q. How by the receivers?

A. First, by taking the bread and drinks

ing the wine. Secondly, by digesting of them: first in the stomacke, then in the liner; lastely, in enery part, whereby they are made powerfull to humane duties.

Q. How doth all this teach the inward

man in respect of grace?

A. In proportioning them to Christ, both in himselfe and in his vse.

Q. How in himselfe.

A. Both in his nature and qualitie.

Q. How in his nature?

A. As his body is the bread of life where of whosoener tasketh thall never hunger, and his blood is drinke indeede, that for ever makes glad the heart and soule.

Q. How in the qualitie?

A. As his body and bloud were common with ours in all things sinne ovely excepted, and that he is made sensible both to the eare bosed by the Spirit, the eye annoing ted with eye salve, and to the feeling of the sandised assection, also to the smelling of toy, and taking of the hungry soule.

Q. How in the yse?

A. Either as hee is appointed of the Father, or received of vs.

Q. How of God?

A. First, as her is called to this worke. Secondly, indued with grace. Thirdly, as

his body is crucified for vs, and his bloode poured out for the walking of our wounds. Fourthly, as hee is delinered and given to esuery beleever.

How received of vs?

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A. First, he is taken by the hand of faith, and his body is fed on by meduation, and his blood spiritually dunken to wash our soules then is hee disgested, first in the understanding, and then in the will and affections, and

lattly, distributed to every faculty both of body and soule, by which were are made able to every good word and worke, which is the happy life of every Thristian.

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# The Conclusion.

Itherto (Industrious and paine-full Reader) I haue but brought thee to the top of Mount Nebo, and with this prospective glasse, have giuen thee the general veiw of the land of Canaan. If thou wilt be pleased (with the Spies sent out by Moses) to enter further, and send forth the Scouts of thy Soule, to make larger discoueries, thou shalt sinde the depthes of dinini= tie more fully founded concerning thy faith in one God three persons: and after thou art entred further into the Continents, and hast coasted the shores plyed up the frythes, thou shalt disco= per the inhabitants of heaven & earth, heir qualities, tempers, regiment of ife, their dyet, imployment &c. I neane, thou shalt finde in some good mealitee

measure, how richly, God hath furnis shed the world, in what excellent manner he gouerneth it, especiall his great care for thee and thy happinesse. In essence hee is simply one, yet hath he made himselfe many attributes, so that what thou canst not conceive by one act of vnderstanding, thou mayest the better perceive by many: Thou shalt see the persons delighting themselues aboue all thinges in thee and thy sal= nation, and accordingly put foorth themselues in al their works of Creation and Prouidence, thou shalt find againe thy duty & debt to God for al his fauors: for if God shed abroad (Rom. 5.5) his love in thy heart, then must thou of necessitie loue him againe: No man goes to his bed and warmes it with his owne heat, but hee lookes for heat a= gaine: So, God refting in the heart, lookes for love out of it, I Tim. 1.5 In a word, I shall be glad, if by this, and the other, I shall make the Art so easig for thee, that thou mayest reape thy

profit by it. And thus (as by a letter of advertisiment from the coast of Canaan)
I cease thy further trouble, neuer ceasing to pray for thee.

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nd fice hy Thine in Christ Iesus, as his owne,

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